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In The Claims:

Please cancel claim 25 to 34 and 43 to 46 without prejudice, and amend claims 1, 11, 12 and 20 to 24 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for modulating the expression of an exogenous gene in a **[mammalian subject]** cell containing:

(i) a DNA construct comprising said exogenous gene under the control of an ecdysone response element; and

(ii) a modified ecdysone receptor which, in the presence of a ligand therefor, and optionally in the further presence of a receptor capable of acting as a silent partner therefor, binds to said ecdysone response element;

said method comprising **[administering to said subject]** providing to the cell an effective amount of a ligand for said modified ecdysone receptor; wherein said ligand is not normally present in the **[cells of said subject]** cell; and wherein said ligand is not toxic to said **[subject]** cell.

11. (Amended) A method according to claim **[1]** 47 wherein said receptor capable of acting as a silent partner is RXR.

12. (Amended) A method according to claim 11 wherein said RXR is exogenous to said mammalian **[subject]** cell.

20. (Amended) A method according to claim 19 wherein said wild type gene is selected from genes which encode products:

the substantial absence of which leads to the occurrence of a non-normal state in said **[subject]** cell; or

a substantial excess of which leads to the occurrence of a non-normal state in said **[subject]** cell.

21. (Amended) A method according to claim 19 wherein said therapeutic gene is selected from those which encode products:

which are toxic to the cells in which they are expressed; or

which impart a beneficial property to said **[subject]** cells.

22. (Amended) A method of inducing the expression of an exogenous gene in a **[mammalian subject]** cell containing:

(i) a DNA construct comprising an exogenous gene under the control of an ecdysone response element,

(ii) DNA encoding a modified ecdysone receptor under the control of an inducible promoter; wherein said modified ecdysone receptor, in the presence of a ligand therefor, and optionally in the further presence of a receptor capable of acting as a silent partner therefor, binds to said ecdysone response element, and

(iii) a ligand for said modified ecdysone receptor;

said method comprising subjecting said **[subject]** cell to conditions suitable to induce expression of said modified ecdysone receptor.

23. (Amended) A method of inducing expression of an exogenous gene in a **[mammalian subject]** cell containing a DNA construct containing said exogenous gene under the control of an ecdysone response element, said method comprising introducing into said **[subject]** cell:

a modified ecdysone receptor; and

a ligand for said modified ecdysone receptor,

wherein said receptor, in combination with a ligand therefor, and optionally in the further presence of a receptor capable of acting as a silent partner therefor, binds to said ecdysone response element, activating transcription therefrom.

24. (Amended) A method for the expression of a recombinant product detrimental to **[a host organism]** host cells, said method comprising:

transforming suitable host cells with:

(i) a DNA construct encoding said recombinant product under the control of an ecdysone response element, and

(ii) DNA encoding a modified ecdysone receptor;

growing said host cells in suitable media; and

inducing expression of said recombinant product by introducing into said host cells ligand(s) for said modified ecdysone receptor, and optionally a receptor capable of acting as a silent partner for said modified ecdysone receptor.

Please add new claims 47 to 56 as follows:

47. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said receptor capable of acting as a silent partner is present.

48. (New) A method according to claim 47 wherein said receptor capable of acting as a silent partner is ultraspiracle.

49. (New) A method according to claim 1 wherein said modified ecdysone receptor has substantially no binding affinity for endogenous response elements.

50. (New) A method for modulating the expression of an exogenous gene in a cell containing:

(i) a DNA construct comprising said exogenous gene under the control of an ecdysone response element; and

(ii) a modified ecdysone receptor which, in the presence of a ligand therefor, and in the further presence of a receptor capable of acting as a silent partner therefor, binds to said ecdysone response element;

said method comprising providing to said cell an effective amount of a ligand for said modified ecdysone receptor; wherein said ligand is not normally present in said cell; and wherein said ligand is not toxic to said cell.

51. (New) A method according to claim 52, wherein said receptor capable of acting as a silent partner is RXR.

52. (New) A method according to claim 52, wherein said receptor capable of acting as a silent partner is ultraspiracle.

53. (New) A method for modulating the expression of an exogenous gene in a mammalian cell containing:

(i) a DNA construct comprising said exogenous gene under the control of an ecdysone response element; and

(ii) a modified ecdysone receptor which, in the presence of a ligand therefor, and optionally in the further presence of a receptor capable of acting as a silent partner therefor, binds to said ecdysone response element;

said method comprising providing to said mammalian cell an effective amount of a ligand for said modified ecdysone receptor; wherein said ligand is not normally present in said mammalian cell; and wherein said ligand is not toxic to said mammalian cell.

54. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said receptor capable of acting as a silent partner is present.